GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2300
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2006
EXPLORATION AT MAHANDI BASIN
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the oil exploration operation being carried out in Mahanadi basin of Oil India Limited;

(b) whether the OIL has decided to close down its work in the basin;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the possible effect on the workers engaged for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) Oil India Limited (OIL) is carrying out exploration of oil and gas in the on land block MN-ONN-2000/1 in Mahanadi basin. OIL has already completed acquisition, processing and interpretation of 463.68 GLKM of 2-D seismic data. Based on this, OIL has identified one location for drilling.

In addition, OIL is a partner in one offshore block in Mahanadi basin namely MN-OSN-2000/2, where ONGC, the operator for the block, has acquired 1001 GLKM of 2-D and 625 sq km of 3-D seismic data. Drilling of one well has been completed and second well is under drilling.

(b) OIL has not decided to close down its work in the basin.

(c) & (d) Do not apply in view of (b) above.